goods. Government of India are, however, keeping a close watch over the developments in this regard. Government of India have already taken several measures for the development of jute industry including, inter-alia, creation of a Jute Modernisation Fund to cater to the modernisation requirement of the jute industry, creation of a Special Jute Development Fund to rejuvenate the jute economy, extension of fiscal, monetary and marketing support etc.

Re-training of textile workers

3834. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that government has identified five institutions for retraining the retrenched textile workers in Ahmedabad, Calcutta, Indore, Bombay and Kanpur;

(b) if so, whether the training has started in these institution; and

(c) if so, the number of workers getting training at present and other details of the training programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) A Rehabilitation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 50 crores has been created for the purpose of retraining and redeployment of workers of the NTC who have availed VRS. The scheme envisages training of workers and setting up of powerlooms/reeling units. Powerloom service centres and Textile Research Associations, namely MITRA at Kanpur; ATIRA at Ahmedabad; BTRA at Bombay and SITRA at Coimbatore have been authorised to impart training to such workers. 265 rationalised workers of NTC have availed of the benefits of the scheme for training and redeployment of workers up to 31-7-1993.

Study of miserable condition of handloom weavers

3835. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

SHRI B.K. HARI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of handloom units lying closed in the country state-wise;

(b) whether Government have conducted a study in respect of the miserable conditions of these industries;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof, state-wise district-wise;

(d) if not, whether Government propose to conduct any study for miserable condition of handloom units; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Government has no access to the data on the number of handloom units lying closed in the country in view of the decentralised nature of this industry.

(b) A Census of Handlooms at the national level covering inter-alia certain data on the socio-economic aspect of handloom weavers was conducted through the State Government during 1987-88.

(c) One of the findings of the Census revealed that an average weaver household earn about Rs. 715/- per month. The average income of urban households is Rs. 935/- while that of rural households is Rs. 678/-. The state-wise distribution of weaver households by monthly earnings is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	Distribution of households by monthly earnings from all sources		
		Upto Rs. 200	Rs. 201-500	Rs. 501 and above
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13,672	1,13,934	44,054
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,784	18,995	13,096
3.	Assam	66,360	3;65,234	7,92,362

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	Distribution of households by monthly earnings from all sources		
		Upto Rs. 200	Rs. 201-500	Rs. 501 and above
4.	Bihar	2,243	33,875	31,069
5.	Goa	2	16	26
6.	Gujarat	2,425	12,717	6,211
7.	Haryana	273	2,917	13,771
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3,219	13,657	12,193
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	785	8,213	8,558
10.	Karnataka	3,908	34,010	20,300
11.	Kerala	11,811	18,296	3,464
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1,441	20,747	13,525
13.	Maharashtra	2,701	33,583	15,492
14.	Manipur	4,405	26,995	1,60,738
15.	Meghalaya	..	213	6,186
16.	Mizoram	141	6,913	72,728
17.	Nagaland	13,492	14,484	23,053
18.	Orissa	4,993	53,125	28,369
19.	Punjab	206	3,723	3,969
20.	Rajasthan	1,504	16,838	11,506
21.	Tamil Nadu	24,803	1,44,302	92,204
22.	Tripura	8,331	64,129	27,397
23.	Uttar Pradesh	4,289	1,10,921	74,307
24.	West Bengal	31,386	2,02,681	50,140
25.	Delhi	6	1,241	6,138
26.	Pondicherry	168	2,184	942
	TOTAL	2,04,348	13,23,943	15,31,798

Providing jobs to idle looms

3836. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to provide looms to about 3 lakhs loomless weavers whereas an equal number of looms are idle due to lack of work; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to provide work for these idle looms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) According to one estimate there are about 2.79 lakhs handlooms mostly household looms which remained idle. The proposal of Government of India is now to cover loomless weavers those actually working in worksheds of master weavers, factories of financiers, worksheds of Primary Weavers Cooperatives and Production Centres of Handloom Development Corporations. The objective of the present proposal is to liberate the loomless weavers from the clutches of middlemen.

(b) The proposed package of assistance for weavers under the ongoing programmes of Department of Rural Development include provision of adequate working capital or margin money in order to enable the weavers to take up production and marketing activities on their own.